

Gail Porter

Gail Porter has been a science writer and editor, communications manager, and public information officer for the last 28 years. Her current day job is chief of the Communications and Inquiries Group for the National Institute of Standards and Technology, where she is responsible for central coordination of NIST's external and internal websites, publications, exhibits, speeches and other communications products. In her spare time she moonlights as President of the D.C. Science Writers Association, a group of writers that hosts monthly lectures and other types of events for journalists and PIOs in the D.C. metropolitan area. She co-organized a 2002 conference with 300 attendees on Best Practices in Science Communications and has served as a workshop speaker or organizer for the National Association of Science Writers on topics such as Thinking Visually, Evaluating Public Affairs: How to Know if You're Doing a Good Job, and Mastering the Editing Art. From 1981-90, Porter handled media relations for the National Academies of Science and Engineering, including five years as director of the Office of News and Public Information. However, she is most proud of the fact that despite entering this field as an English major, she has successfully covered an extremely wide range of scientific topics from quantum computing to gene chips to atomic clocks.